

182 COMMENTARY ON MACAULAY'S  
HISTORY

1694 and 1695, But all these original  
authorities needed  
interpreting by men who understood naval  
strategy ; a  
historian without professional or technical  
knowledge  
could hardly have understood their meaning  
even if they  
had been accessible in print. It required  
Mahan, and  
Colomb, and Corbett to set the facts in their  
true light and  
show the conclusions to be drawn from them.